

Hurricane Effect

by Joe Ludick

After having spent my entire adult life in Miami and living through some horrendous storms, including Andrew, I migrated to Port St. Lucie. They had not had a storm since 1946. Don't you know two of those ladies found me last fall. They wreaked havoc with my roses and hibiscus. The roses were easy to replace (although expensive). The hibiscus were more difficult. I lost a dozen or so of my cultivars. After trying all the Florida growers, to little avail, I got on the Internet. In six months I was able to find wood for almost everything I lost. I got to thinking and wondering how many others might be in the same shape. Lets try something. If you are looking for one of your old cultivars, drop a note to The Seed Pod. We will find it. If you still have some of the old show winners such as Bloomin Blazes, Crimson Ray, Erma K, let the Editor know. We will print it. I am looking for Challenger, Judge Newbold and Helen Fletcher. Give us a try to see if we can help you.

Joe Ludick

Since Joe wrote this article we have many more AHS members affected by hurricanes. We know those of you in Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama may not be thinking about hibiscus replacement yet, but know that we are here to help in anyway we can.

Recently the damage from hurricanes has been devastating. We thought Florida was hit hard, in 2004. Now Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama have been hit hard with one storm. We are fortunate that all our members survived. Our hearts go out to those of you who were affected. The ripple effect is being felt by all of us. I'm sure many of you would like to help. You may do this by sending checks or money orders to :

Damon Veach
P.O. Box 44370
Capitol Station
Baton Rouge, LA 70804

Contributions can also be made using PayPal. Please contact Walter Bisselle at wbisselle@aol.com or (941) 484-6459. For PayPal questions contact Tom Miller at tlmiller@mac.com.

Hurricane Effect continued on page 29

Hurricane Effect continued from page 28

Several members in the New Orleans area will assist in distribution of monies to AHS members. They are close to the situation and will be able to assess the needs. Things are very bad there. Help was needed yesterday. Tent cities have taken over. The National Guard and other peoples assisting have set up. Businesses have to close early due to roaming gangs. Streets in Baton Rouge are crowded due to the doubling of the population. We here in Florida are very aware of the congestion and confusion the assistance creates.

These members have lost hibiscus plants. We will address this issue next spring when member in close proximity can help them replace lost plants.

Joe Ludick sent me an article he wrote after the four hurricanes in Florida.

Lack of space preventing publication. How ironic that since then we had another bad storm.

*Happy Holidays
from
Conrad Nurseries*

**SEASONS GREETINGS
FROM
PAW PAW
EVERLASTING LABEL
COMPANY**